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U. S. COAST AND GEODETIC SURVEY.

Henry S. Pritchett, Superintendent.

State: *Hawaii Island*

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DESCRIPTIVE REPORT.

Hydrographic Sheet No. 2455

LOCALITY:

*Hilo Bay, Island of
Hawaii*

1900

CHIEF OF PARTY:

J. W. Perkins

2455

Descriptive Report of
Hilo Bay

Hilo Bay is the only notable anchorage on the East Coast of Hawaii. While fully exposed to the N.E. trades an anchorage is afforded by Blonde Reef, which is a shoal extending to the Westward one and one half miles across the mouth of the bay.

The channel between this shoal and the Western Shore is three fourths of a mile wide. Except at rare intervals, the sea breaks over Blonde Reef, upon which depths varying from three to five fathoms are found.

There is another channel running about W.S.W. to the Southward of Blonde Reef about one third of a mile wide. This channel is seldom used.

Anywhere between Blonde Reef and Hilo anchorages in between three and seven fathoms of water may be found with good holding ground.

There is a regular line of steamers plying between Honolulu and Hilo.

In the S.W. corner of the bay is Hilo, the principal city of the Island of Hawaii. From Hilo to the Northward the shore is rugged, breakers at all times lining this shore, which is fringed with bluffs from two hundred to two hundred fifty feet high.

From Hilo Eastward to a small village, Waiakea, a clean sand beach extends

From Waiakea to the ^{North} Westward and Eastward the shore is rugged and rocky.

Cocoanut Island, a small island close to the Eastern shore of the bay, near Waiakea, is used by the government as a quarantine station.

Freight from vessels in the harbor is lighted ashore over a small

bar and into Waiakea Stream, where small warehouses are located.

The principal export of this port is sugar.

Pilots meet incoming vessels.

(See letter to the Superintendent from Asst F. W. Perkins dated Hilo, Hawaii, Hawaiian Islands Jan. 22nd. & Feb. 2nd. 1900.)

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